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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/003,078	11/02/2001	William Schwartz	2070.005700/P6773	5325
23720	7590	11/05/2004		
WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C. 10333 RICHMOND, SUITE 1100 HOUSTON, TX 77042				
			EXAMINER DALEY, CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY	
			ART UNIT 2111	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/003,078

Applicant(s)

SCHWARTZ, WILLIAM

Examiner

Christopher A Daley

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Notice to Applicant(s)**

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1,713,19 –20 are examined.

***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the details of the inrush current controller must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). The means of detecting the insertion of a device is not shown. The means of blocking the inrush current is also missing from the drawings. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will

Art Unit: 2111

be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

As to claims 1,7,and 13, the examiner gives no weight to the amended phrase "in response to detecting the device being inserted" as it adds no further limitation to the intended claims 1,7, and 13 when compared to the original claims. The amendment is redundant to the claim(s).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klein et al (US6138194) hereafter Klein.

5. As to amended claim 19, Klein teaches of an apparatus comprising a printed circuit board;

A sensing circuit adapted to detect a device being electrically coupled to the printed circuit board and provide a signal indicative thereof; (Klein teaches that optical card detector 210 of Figure 2 generates a first signal, card detect signal 216 when insertion of a card is found on the printed circuit board shown in Figure 4. Klein teaches that the associated controller is 200 of Figure 2 responds to the card detect signal by generating a slot disable signal 218 to isolate power from the inrush limiter 206 and isolate

Art Unit: 2111

electrical bus 106 from the affected slot. This indicates that the card is electrically coupled to the printed circuit board, COL. 4, lines 30 – 40).

6. As to amended claim 20, Klein teaches of a system that comprises a sensor to detect a hot swappable device being inserted into a system; a controller adapted to block delivery of system voltage to the hot swappable device for a first pre-selected duration of time in response to detecting the hot swappable device being inserted into the system. (Klein teaches that his invention is related to fault tolerance in hot swappable systems, COL. 1, lines 10 – 14. Further Klein teaches that controller 200 of Figure 2 produces a slot disable signal that controls the inrush limiter 206. The inrush limiter decouples the affected card slot 204 from power supply 208, COL. 2, lines 50 – 53).

### **Response to Arguments**

7. In response to the applicant's argument that Klein does not teach the blocking delivery of electrical signal to the inserted device for a first pre-selected duration of time in response to detecting the device being inserted as described in claim 1 of the current invention, Klein clearly teaches of the insertion of a bus card in slot 204 of Figure 2. The optical detector detects the insertion of the bus card and asserts the card detect signal 216. The controller receives the card detect signal 216 and after a pre-determined time (time when controller grants notice to card detect signal 216). When any card is plugged into a system, it does not possess power. Klein dwells on the

removal of cards from the system, followed by the insertion of a new card. When a card is inserted, Klein teaches the decoupling of the power supply 208 through the inrush limiter 206 from the card and limit the surge of current into slot 204, COL. 4, lines 54 – 58).

### ***Conclusion***

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher A Daley whose telephone number is 571 272 3625. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am. - 4p m.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 571 272 3632. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2111

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CAD  
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October 25, 2004



**TIM VO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**